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The BG News February 9, 2006

Bowling Green State University

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STREAKING: Falcons improve to 19-2 with 66-58 win over Northern Illinois in Mid-American Conference play; **PAGE 10**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

THURSDAY
February 9,
2006

....
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 31 | LOW: 25

www.bgnews.com
VOLUME 100 ISSUE 97



Brandon Heiss BG News

ITALIAN STYLE: Dave Waxler orders food at the newly remodeled DiBenedetto's on Wooster Street across from Harshman. Waxler and friend Jesus Almaraz (not pictured) say the added doors and lightened windows make DiBenedetto's a lot nicer (Above). The newly remodeled DiBenedetto's on Wooster Street across from Harshman, which also includes a new sign outside (Left).



Italian restaurant's new look, old feel

After months of remodeling, DiBenedetto's still has familiar ambience

By Nikki Jardine
REPORTER

DiBenedetto's a family owned Italian restaurant has gotten a new look inside and out, and is celebrating the grand re-opening now through February 11.

Upon entering the building, a newly remodeled foyer built from the ground up welcomes customers into DiBenedetto's. BGSU alumna, Kevin Riggelman designed and constructed the new foyer. Riggelman did "a beautiful job," said co-owner,

Ramona DiBenedetto.

The east side of the building now has new windows installed and brings in a brighter, cheerier atmosphere to customers and staff.

New lighting is to be added along with shades for the large windows before the summer sunshine returns, said Ramona DiBenedetto.

Additional seating has also been added by the front windows, giving customers a place to eat and look out onto

Wooster Street.

The support for BGSU's athletic teams continues to be displayed on the walls with signed pictures and posters of Falcon athletes, signed hockey sticks and BGSU banners. The DiBenedetto's are big Falcon fans and continue to receive signed hockey equipment and other décor from the team that eats there before every home game, and even some away games.

DiBenedetto's now has additional parking, making it easier

to access the restaurant. The parking spaces wrap around the building and lead to more parking behind the building. The low brick wall that used to divide the parking lot has been replaced with a ramp providing an exit onto State Street.

The remodeling, which began September 2005, is about 90 percent complete according to Ramona DiBenedetto. DiBenedetto's never closed through the reconstruction, working before opening at 10

a.m., and after the lunch hour.

Employee Ben Kackley helped hang some décor and put together the new seating. Kackley thinks the new renovations and the Ma and Pa atmosphere the restaurant has maintained over the years is great.

Customer Tim Dunn says he has eaten at DiBenedetto's "once or twice a week for many years." Dunn said the new renovations are "very nice," and that

DIBENEDETTO'S, PAGE 2

Community projects helped by University

By Brian Pauline
REPORTER

Several projects that help the community and shape students' futures will be getting a big help from the University.

During a luncheon yesterday at the Union Ballroom, partnership grants were given to 12 organizations. A total of \$45,945 was given from the University to support the projects.

Projects ranging from elder abuse to environmental education were recognized and awarded money to fulfill their tasks and launch their projects.

The grants were given out in a collaboration from the Partnerships for Community Action and the Center for Innovative and Transformative Education. Each project was reviewed and awarded grants based on each organization's needs.

According to Linda Dobb, executive vice president of the University, the real work lies ahead for these grant recipients.

The Parent/Professional Empowerment Project is

GRANTS, PAGE 2

GRANT ME A GRANT

Representatives from several groups and collaborations are receiving development money. Listed below are some of projects being funded, along with the groups represented.

■ **Oral Histories, Digital Presences and Community Mural**

BGSU and PHCA collaboration

■ **Cheer-Leading Away from Dating Violence**

Women's Center and Shay's Foundation for Life

■ **Elder Abuse Conference**

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc., Lucas County Dept. of Jobs & Family Svcs., BGSU Gerontology Program, human services/gerontology

■ **Two Bridges Community Literacy Project**

East Toledo Junior High School, Waite High School, BGSU School of Teaching and Learning

For more info on the grants, go to <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/news/2006/news17780.html>

Poor body image expressed in play

By Addie Curlls
REPORTER

Society and media continue to put pressure on young adults to look flawless.

This pressure to look like supermodels or movie stars leads some women to develop eating disorders.

During this week's brown bag luncheon presented the importance of eating disorder awareness to improve body image.

The presenter was Kristin Heller, the director of "Beautiful Bodies," an activist theatre performance.

Heller is bringing "Beautiful Bodies," to campus hoping for a positive change in students' mentality toward their bodies. The play has been running for over 10 years.

"I want someone to take away something positive from the performance. If someone can forget about their personal problems for two hours, I'm glad," Heller said. "If the audience finds something that helps them or makes them feel better in general, then it will be a success."

Activist theatre takes issues

in question in today's society and works toward positive outcomes.

The play surrounds six women who grew up together and are going in their separate directions now that they are in their thirties. The one woman is pregnant so we see them as they meet up for a baby shower.

During the performances, volunteers will be ready to talk to audience members in case the issues strike close to home.

The play presents serious issues in a humorous way.

"Laughter is a great coping mechanism," Heller said.

After three of the cast members acted out the scene at the brown bag luncheon, it was evident that the play portrays the insecurities that each one of the characters is dealing with.

The cast members feel they fit their characters well.

"Elizabeth is an outgoing person and always happy like me, but the difference is she's anorexic and I'm obviously not," said Alicia Valentine, who

LUNCHEON, PAGE 2

RIGHT POCKET



Pat Dorsman BG News

THE PERFECT ANGLE: Senior Sandra Gonzalez lines up for a shot as senior Sasha Donelson (middle) looks on. The two were the only ones who entered the women's pool tournament at the Pub.

U2 WALKS AWAY WITH FIVE: Bono and Co. win five Grammy Awards last night, including song and album of the year. Read about Mariah Carey and the entire list of winners online ; WWW.BGNEWS.COM



FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

FRIDAY

Snow Shower
High: 33°
Low: 23°

SATURDAY

Snow Showers
High: 28°
Low: 19°

SUNDAY

Snow Showers
High: 29°
Low: 22°

MONDAY

Mostly Cloudy
High: 29°
Low: 25°

FOR ALL THE NEWS VISIT WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Female image broken in show

Monologue open to all as female cast takes the stage for third year

By Meghan Schmidt
REPORTER

If your boyfriend isn't comfortable discussing the female anatomy in a roomful of strangers, then watch out, ladies—he's not worth his salt.

At least not according to Hannah Geyer, producer of the 2006 BGSU Vagina Monologues, which debuts tonight at 8 p.m. in the Union ballroom.

Geyer said the cast of this year's Vagina Monologues—which will repeat the performance on Friday night and Sunday afternoon—not only welcomes men to the show, but expects them to take interest in the topics it touches upon.

"I feel like, if you can't take your boyfriend to this show, then why are you with him?" Geyer said.

During the show, each member of the all-female cast performs one of dozens of monologues compiled by author Eve Ensler, who interviewed 200 women about their feelings on issues ranging from sex and relationships to sexual abuse and domestic violence. From those interviews, Ensler composed the script for the Vagina Monologues, which debuted off-Broadway in 1996 and has since been performed in small theaters and on college campuses across the country.

For the past three years, the Organization for Women's Issues has sponsored and funded the annual production of the Vagina Monologues. Ensler allows groups to use her script for free—as long as all money earned from performances is donated to foundations that aid women.

This year OWI will donate proceeds to the Cocoon women's shelter and the SAAFE program, which provides free counsel-

ing for victims of sexual assault and violence.

According to Vagina Monologues director Luce Tomlin-Brenner, who was also involved with last year's production, sometimes the subject matter startles the audience—male or female.

"It's controversial because we're saying words like 'cunt' in a big room," Tomlin-Brenner said. "It's kind of bringing vulgarity to light."

But Geyer said the sensitive reaction many people have to such words may cause them to have a misunderstanding of what the show is all about.

"The misconception is that it's a very liberal show," Geyer said. "And we are liberal in what we talk about, but it's not politically liberal. And it isn't that it's vulgar. It's just covers things that all women deal with."

When Geyer and Tomlin-Brenner began auditions for the performance last October, they

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

WHERE: Union Ballroom

WHEN: Feb 9 and 10 at 8 p.m. (doors at 7:30) and Feb 12 at 2 p.m. (doors at 1:30)

TICKETS: \$8 with BGSU ID; \$10 for everyone else

Purchase tickets at the door or all this week from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Union

had a few goals in mind—all of which have been met. One was to have all cast members memorize their monologues instead of reading them off of paper.

Another was to have the entire cast and crew, from the performers to the ticket takers, be female.

VAGINA, PAGE 9

Projects aid area Toledo schools

GRANTS, FROM PAGE 1

designed to provide a forum to parents of children with disabilities together with students on methods of effective empowerment and education, according to the Support Grant Program Final Report.

Parents of children with disabilities undergo a lot of stress and this teaches professionals how to collaborate with parents to effectively lessen this stress, said Tim Floyd, family support specialist.

Another recipient, Cheer-Leading Away from Dating Violence, has personal ties for one of the project's directors.

Cheryl Grant-Boyd, founder and CEO of Shay's Foundation for Life witnessed her daughter die at the hands of dating violence. She since has become an advocate for dating violence and promotes education regarding dating and violence among teens.

According to the report, her program will train cheerleaders at Start High School in Toledo, to be peer educators and advocates to train teen girls in the dangers of dating violence.

"It's just another piece to getting the word out there, each school will have 12 trained girls to help high school girls," Grant-Boyd said.

A new law was introduced recently to promote awareness and education regarding dating violence.

"Shynerra's Law fights to get young victims recognized by

"We tried to create one universal Web site to educate and inform, to try to help promote things."

DUSTIN GALISH, CLASS

the law and to provide them with shelters in the event they are violated against and cannot get help," Grant-Boyd said.

Another project Two Bridges Community Literacy Project received grant money to promote reading in grade school children. The project involves a collaboration with the English Departments at Waite High School and East Toledo Junior High School with senior citizens to develop a cross-generational literary magazine.

Lined up across the back of the Ballroom were last year's grant recipients. Tables set up with trifold, multimedia, computer and television presentations chronicled each organization's achievements. Each grant recipient had well-seasoned programs that the grant money helped fund.

Dustin Galish, with Sealion Estates, used last year's grant money to fund a Web site that combines community, arts and culture to help navigate important issues in the city of Bowling Green.

"We tried to create one universal Web site to educate and inform, to try to help promote things," Galish said.

Theater emphasizes positive body image

LUNCHEON, FROM PAGE 1

plays an anorexic model in the play.

"Beautiful Bodies" is one of the plays in the book "By, For, and About Women" that Heller came across as director. In the past, she has directed the more serious play "Most Massive Women Wins."

This is a performance describing many women's reasons for coming to a liposuction clinic.

Heller said she is expecting a higher turnout for "Beautiful Bodies" because it is being performed on campus and a lot more publicity is being done.

"It's a fun show about serious

issues and how friends help you through them," Heller said.

The performance will take place February 23-25 in Founders Courtyard. This is located across from the food court in Founders.

Opening night is Thursday at 8 p.m., the Friday show will take place at 2 p.m. and then again on Saturday at 8 p.m.

The show is free, but donations will be accepted and given to The Cocoon, a local women's domestic abuse shelter.

"I think that it's a very relevant show to come to campus and the issues are applicable to women of all ages," said Callie Bender, senior.



Addie Curtis BG News

GIRL POWER: From left to right: Alicia Valentine, Melissa Faybik, Kristin Heller (director), Stephanie Ruehl.

Owner carries over family tradition

DIBENEDDETTO'S, FROM PAGE 1

the DiBenedetto's have created a warm and inviting atmosphere which has gained the family support and respect from the public.

The construction on Wooster Street had slowed down DiBenedetto's business, along with the laundromat, Campus Quarters and the now closed Bee Gee Bookstore.

"If we weren't already established, I don't know if we would of made it," Ramona DiBenedetto said of the construction's impact.

The owner of the building decided to remodel the entire outside bringing more attention to business' and hopefully leasing that empty spot.

Owners Ralph and Ramona DiBenedetto started 27 years ago as Sub Me Quick where Madhatter Music Company is now, serving just salads and subs. The move to the current

location at 1432 East Wooster Street, 22 years ago, allowed the DiBenedetto's to expand the menu to include Italian specialties, pastas and side dishes.

Being raised on authentic Italian food gave Ralph DiBenedetto the natural ability to create wonderful Italian dishes, Ramona DiBenedetto said.

"If we're not cooking here, we are having people over at the house. We love to cook, we love company," she said.

The cooking ability runs in the family, as their youngest son, Chris DiBenedetto, owns Cucina de Betto located on Main Street. Ramona DiBenedetto thinks of their restaurant as the lunch place, and their son's restaurant as the dinner place.

"When he [Ralph] and Chris walk into the kitchen, I'll look and I'll say 'there's nothing to eat' and all of a sudden there is this fabulous meal. They can make something from nothing," said Ramona DiBenedetto,

"If we're not cooking here, we are having people over at the house. We love to cook, we love company."

RAMONA DIBENEDDETTO, OWNER

describing the cooking talent of her husband and son.

Their oldest son, Ralph Jr., currently in Indianapolis, also has the DiBenedetto cooking talents, which his wife greatly appreciates, according to Ramona.

DiBenedetto's and Cucina de Betto are both part of Sub Me Quick Incorporated, and will share the responsibilities of catering and even the preparation of some food items, such as bread.

The two restaurants share and help one another in fulfilling catering orders. "What he doesn't do, we do and vice versa.

We compliment each other," Ramona DiBenedetto said. "I don't think people know how much catering we do; we do a ton of it."

Formally an international buyer, Ralph DiBenedetto decided to settle in Bowling Green and become an entrepreneur after moving all of country and even the world. Ralph, originally from New Jersey, and Ramona met during college in her home state California.

The DiBenedetto's currently work at the restaurant 20 to 25 hours of week and travel quite frequently during the campus breaks.

"None of us are slackers, that is why we are still doing this," Ramona DiBenedetto said.

When alumni come in and are so happy they are still there, "how can you walk away from that?" Ramona DiBenedetto said.

She also can't imagine taking their name down from over the door.

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'THINK OHIO' TALKS HIGHER EDUCATION

(U-WIRE) CINCINNATI — A new campaign is an effort to make voters aware of the cost of education and its affects on the state was introduced to the University of Cincinnati community. Think Ohio, is a statewide campaign to educate citizens about the rising cost of higher education.

www.bgnews.com/campus

CAMPUS

VALENTINE'S DAY PREVIEW | STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

Students begin to experience married life

Not all students wait until after college to tie the knot

By Kyle Reynolds
REPORTER

Though the Census Bureau shows that people are getting married later in life, some University students have decided to take the trip to the altar before they even walk across the stage to get their diplomas.

Dan Moates, senior, and Rebecca Moates, junior, are among these students who got married during college.

After about three years of dating and a 14-month engagement, the couple walked down the aisle and said "I Do" on Aug. 13, 2005.

The lives of college students can be busy, and the Moates have found that being married makes life even more hectic. Classes, homework and jobs keep the two apart for most of the week.

"Some weeks we only see each other when we go to bed," Rebecca said.

But they try to take a break from their crazy schedules on the weekends.

"We try to catch up on the weekends, ideally we like to set

aside some time where we can be together, like go out one night a week, maybe go out to dinner or something like that," Dan said.

On top of having to schedule time to spend together since they got married, they also have to deal with the new challenge of finances.

While most students rely heavily on their parents when it comes to finances, that isn't the case for the Moates.

"Once you become married you are officially recognized as no longer [being] financially dependent on your parents and you definitely have to adjust," Dan said. "But there are counterbalances, like financial aid recognizes there are two people in the household, both of whom are in school, so generally it balances out."

Being financially independent wasn't the only change they had to adjust to with marriage. Unlike some couples, the Moates didn't live together until after their wedding. But a long engagement helped them prepare for the adjustment.

"It's important that we spent over a year engaged, we did engaged-couple conferences at our church and our relationship

"Once you become married you are officially recognized as no longer [being] financially dependent on your parents and you definitely have to adjust."

DAN MOATES, SENIOR

really developed to a point where there weren't really significant changes," Dan said. "But one change is we hadn't lived together before. It took some getting used to, but it was a natural progression instead of being a big leap."

One thing that didn't change much with marriage was their social life and relationships with their friends.

"By the time we got married our social life was pretty consistent to the one we had in terms of our relationship had come to a point where we had been engaged for 14 months, so it wasn't a sudden transition," Dan said.

Rebecca added, "It changed some dynamics — like now

people view you as a married couple. We still go out to the bars every once and a while, sometimes together and sometimes separately. I actually think I've gone out more now than I used to, nothing against him."

Senior Ryan Davis, who got married on July 16 to Amy Davis, said his college social life hasn't changed much since his wedding either, just some of the people he hangs out with have.

He and Amy met during their high school years and dated for 6 years before getting married.

"Before I was married I hung out with my roommates who have graduated since I got married, now, my wife and I usually hang out together with other married couples a lot. I hang out with some different people, but other than that things haven't changed," Davis said.

Even though he got married at a young age his family and friends supported his decision.

"My family and friends were supportive, my friends made some jokes about how I'd be with the same woman for the rest of my life, but they were supportive," Davis said.

Since they got married, their relationship has grown more

For more Valentine's Day stories check out the holiday tab, V-DAY INSERT

and caused them to think about finances differently.

"Getting married has made our relationship stronger by us living together all the time and we also had to start thinking financially together instead of as individuals," he said.

Unlike the Moates' and Davis', not everyone is ready to take the step toward marriage yet.

Freshman Chris Daigneault has been in a relationship with his girlfriend for about a year and a half.

"I've thought about marriage, but not in college. I wouldn't get married in college, because I don't think you are financially well-off in college and I think you do a lot of growing in college and that you aren't the same person once you leave college as you are coming into college," Daigneault said.

Rebecca thought being married might be more difficult because they married in college, but that things have turned out better than she thought.

"I became stressed out a couple of times because ... I thought it might be harder getting mar-



Photo Provided
MARRIED LIFE: Students Dan and Rebecca Moates have been married since August 2005.

ried with financial things coming up, with being in college and trying to make ends meet," she said. "Planning a wedding is also hard too, but it hasn't been as hard as I thought it would be."

get a life

calendar of events

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
90's Soul Dinner Theatre Ticket Sale
Seventeenth Annual Multicultural
Dinner Theatre "90's Soul."
Advance reservations required.
Semi-Formal Attire. For more infor-

mation contact: Yolanda Flores at
372-2642
424 Saddlemere

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Build Your Own Bear
Come build your very own bear, for
only \$5.
Union Mezzanine

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Ticket Sales for Vagina Monologues
Sponsored by the Organization for
Women's Issues
Union Lobby

3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Valentines for Volunteers

PRSSA will be giving students
the opportunity to fill out free
Valentines to be sent to Habitat for
Humanity workers cleaning up after
Katrina.
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Distance Learning: Trends,
Opportunities & Statistics
This panel discussion will focus on
the topic of distance learning.
228 BTSU

3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Master Class: Jura Margulis, piano
Jura Margulis, associate profes-
sor of piano at the University
of Arkansas, will give a master
class that will introduce his peda-
gogical concept, "The Unified Piano
School." Free and open to the
public.
Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts
Center

4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Arts & Sciences Distinguished
Faculty Lecture

"The Birth of Containment:
Ceremony, Ornament and the
Vessels of Tom Muir" Admission is
free and open to the public.
206 BTSU

8 p.m.
Student Composers' Forum
BGSU student composers will pre-
sent a forum featuring their works at
8 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical
Arts Center

9 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Late Night Latin Lovers Auction
Sponsored by the Latino Student
Union.
Union Pub

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One Year - One Person Rate - \$400

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One Year - One Person Rate - \$395

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One Year - Two Person Rate - \$520

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Furn. or Unfurn., One bath.
School Year - Two Person Rate- \$620
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$520

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS

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School Year - Two Person Rate- \$590
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$490

701 FOURTH STREET
Furn. or Unfurn., Two bdrm. One bath
w/ Vanity in each bdrm.
School Year - Two Person Rate- \$620
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$520

835 FOURTH STREET
Furn. or Unfurn., Two Bedroom.
School Year - Two Person Rate- \$580
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$480

840-850 SIXTH STREET
Furn. or Unfurn., Two Full baths.
School Year - Two Person Rate- \$640
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$530

810 FIFTH, 649 & 707 SIXTH & 818 SEVENTH
Furn. or Unfurn., One Bath & Hall Vanity.
School Year - Two Person Rate- \$560
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$470

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One Year - Two Person Rate - \$480

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MECCA
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Senator Hilary Clinton
(quotationspage.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Aid should go to those who obey

Everyone makes mistakes. It's human nature to do so.

So everyone deserves a second chance. We can't expect that everyone is going to go through life without violating some sort of crime. How many times have we walked across the street outside of a crosswalk, broken the speed limit or littered?

But, as is the case with all things, there comes a point where a crime crosses the line and is so unpar-

YOU DECIDE

Do you think the criminals should be forced to post their criminal history? Send an e-mail to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our Web site.

donable that certain ramifications must be put into place that serve as deterrents. The best way to

make sure a crime never happens again is to show that those who have committed a crime have eventually paid the price.

By removing the section from the FAFSA, the government is saying that drug trafficking and other morally-depleted crimes are excusable.

They are being condoned, and whereas mistakes will inevitably be made, consequences should be enforced.

The financial aid that is being provided by the national government is being funded by taxpayers.

Taxpayers want to know that what they pay for is going to be a good investment in the education of young adults.

This isn't to say that anyone who has had run-ins with the law should automatically be ostracized and be eliminated from all potential financial aid. After all,

the individual isn't in jail, and he should be entitled to the same rights that everyone else has.

But at the end of the day, people with so little regard for institutional laws are a threat to repeat the same offenses and poorly invest the financial gifts.

FAFSA can't give money to everyone, but choosing someone who has proved to be irresponsible and negligible in the past is a good indicator that things won't

be so bring in the future.

We feel that the question shouldn't be removed entirely from the FAFSA application, but instead, the number of times or the degree of the charges should be taken into consideration.

Certain types of crimes can be omitted, but by having no indicator as to whether someone is a citizenship award winner or a former felon, money won't be allotted to people who don't deserve it.

Cartoonists wield mighty power



DAN LIPIAN

Opinion Columnist

Newspaper cartoons have become major political offenders over the past few years proving, once and for all, that there is simply no escaping the pull of partisan politics in this country. But, unlike news sources such as television and radio, which sometimes owe themselves to heated political debate, cartoons are supposed to elicit laughs and transcend dirty politics. Unfortunately, there has been much incredulity by the public recently over some very controversial comic strips, which have been seen in many of the nation's major newspapers.

This outrage began last week with Tom Toles' virulent comic that appeared in the Washington Post. In this cartoon Toles depicts a heavily bandaged soldier in a hospital bed as having lost his arms and legs, while Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, in the guise of a doctor, says: "I'm listing your condition as 'battle hardened.'"

But Toles did not stop there. He decided to infuse his "comic strip" with even more witty remarks at the bottom of the page where Rumsfeld says: "I'm prescribing that you be stretched thin. We don't define that as torture."

While it may be sad that a man like Tom Toles would write such hateful dialogue, this type of vicious diatribe is actually just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to cartoonists overstepping their bounds.

A while back, Ted Rall produced a cartoon that offered up a so-called, "social commentary" on the death of Pat Tillman, the former NFL football player that gave up

his high-paying job to serve his country. In the cartoon, Tillman is depicted as a dupe, "a cog in a low-rent occupation army that shot more innocent civilians than terrorists to prop up puppet rulers and exploit gas and oil resources" and as an "idiot" who "got killed by the Afghan resistance."

Despite the nastiness of those remarks, months later Rall decided to go for a repeat performance. While the rest of the nation, and even onetime political opponents, mourned the death of former president Ronald Reagan, Ted Rall was too busy arguing that Reagan was in Hell, "turning crispy brown right about now."

He also went on to classify the former president as "the scum of the earth."

Now, it is abundantly clear that these men, without question, have every right to draw any type of cartoon they desire.

The right of free speech and dissent is implicit in our constitution and may not be infringed upon for any reason. Mr. Toles and Mr. Rall are allowed to disagree with U.S. foreign policy, the Iraq War, or whatever else they deem to be wrong.

However, these cartoons cross the line. They are despicable, loathsome, and unequivocally hateful. They invoke defamatory remarks about America's soldiers to their limit, and in their anger they completely neglect to remember that they have an obligation to serve all those that read their material, including the military.

These men seem to be so absorbed with themselves and all of their outmoded, ideological beliefs that they prefer to eschew any notion of class in favor of bashing other Americans.

Men like Ted Rall and Tom Toles have done a disservice

to all those who sacrifice their lives in the line of duty to preserve the freedoms of this country. They speak of the soldiers as if they were the enemy yet they forget that if it weren't for the sacrifices of the men and women of our military, they would not even have the freedoms that allow them to print such hate-laden commentary.

This type of behavior by cartoonists is dangerous because in their disdain, men like Rall and Toles forget the possible ramifications of their actions. One of these days they may just cross the line too far and cause all sorts of problems.

This happened to comic writers in Europe where a few days ago a Danish newspaper printed a comic depicting the prophet Muhammad in a very negative and overly satirical manner.

The cartoon upset so many Muslims that it precipitated a strand of violent protests, increasing into attacks on the Danish Embassies in Lebanon and Syria.

Tom Toles, Ted Rall, the writers of the aforementioned Danish newspaper, and any other comic strip journalist that chooses to engage in this type of behavior should no longer be tolerated by the American public.

While we may not have the right to censor these cartoons, we do have the clear choice to not read them if they continue down their present course.

In the meantime, if these cartoonists would like to find a more civil and, dare I say it, truthful way of expressing doubt, they are welcome to it. After all, everyone loves a good laugh.

Unfortunately, for these so-called journalists, right now, the joke's on them.

Send comments to Dan at dlipian@bgsu.edu

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If the Grammys chose the "album of all time," what would it be?



JOSHUA BRASHEAR

JUNIOR, EDUCATION

"Revolver" by the Beatles.



BOB RICE

SENIOR, EDUCATION

"Master of Puppets" by Metallica.



STEPHEN BOSTON

GRADUATE STUDENT,

ENGLISH

"Joshua Tree" by U2.



ALLISON SANDROCK

SOPHOMORE, RECREATION

"Greatest Hits: My Prerogative" by Britney Spears.

Monologues are vulgar and crude



D.J. JOHNSON

Asst. Opinion Editor

If there was one document that has been written in the last 20 years that has jeopardized decency as we know it, author Eva Ensler deserves the award through her creation of the Vagina Monologues.

Sadly, the University is going to contribute to the tearing of the already-weakened moral fabric of this country by allowing the monologues to be performed here on our campus.

For anyone who hasn't read the Vagina Monologues, my first bit of advice?

Don't. Many scholars will make the assertion that the best way to challenge the authenticity of a subject is to fully research and understand the material so that you can make an objective critique of a given issue.

The Vagina Monologues, however, can't be categorized under scholastic subheadings.

The series of monologues is both vulgar and degrading to women around the world. One monologue, called "The Little Snorcher That Could," is a story about rape. The monologue's satirical title and the organ's droll euphemism immediately take away any type of impact that the monologue might have had.

Another monologue's sole purpose is to "reclaim" the aforementioned body part, and the actress reciting the monologue has historically performed it in an orgasmic-like fashion that I believe is only done for shock value.

Whereas each monologue is laden with tastelessness and crudity, nothing is worse than the assertion that the Vagina Monologues is doing favors to women around the world. If anything is more painful about the mere existence of this self-indulgent nonsense, it's that activists believe that this document will help stop violence against women.

It's worth pointing out that women do need to talk about their sexuality more. An overwhelming number of women are sexually assaulted in a given year, and I believe that by acknowledging that sex is a sacred gift, rape victims will speak out against assault and help overcome this particular social stigma.

The Vagina Monologues, of course, is not the venue to do this. Real women are those who

have a spirit, a soul and a body that work in communion to better themselves and those around them. They are more than one of their organs. Women are not defined by them, nor should a woman's being be epitomized that way.

Instead of promoting female activism, the Vagina Monologues has taken any attempt at female equity and moved it backwards. Ensler equates women with sex, offers no solution of overcoming this national dilemma, and by the end of the disaster, nothing is accomplished. If anything, women are more ashamed and more unwilling to discuss any aspect of their sexuality.

The performance reminds me of a playground in the fourth grade. It reminds me of the days when a group of girls would get together in a circle and laugh about new synonyms for sex. Kids become excited (yet noticeably uncomfortable) with these new ideas of sexuality, but nothing really becomes of the situation.

The Vagina Monologues can be summed up that way. It lacks any substance, and if you have the maturity of a fourth grader, a giggle might be in store. But something that is going to revolutionize the way the world looks at women? Please.

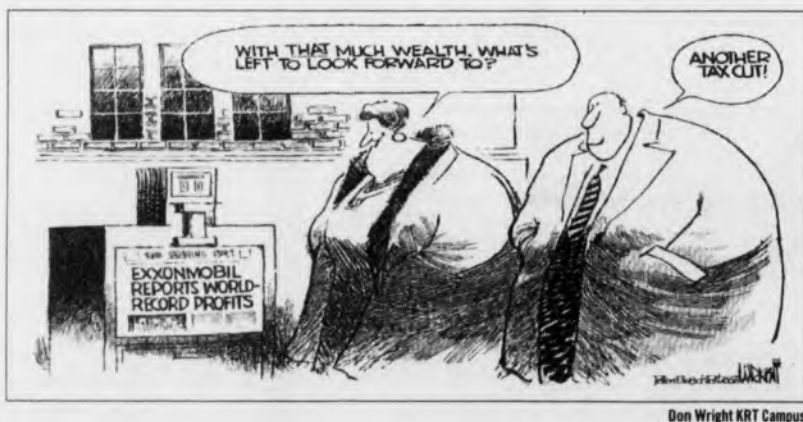
Here's my plea. If you find that you absolutely have to go to this weekend's showing of the Vagina Monologues because you want to support a friend, do what you've got to do.

If you are a cast member of this year's show, although it would be the "move of the year," stepping into this close to opening night poses its own unique set of problems.

But for everyone else who might be considering attending, for the sake of human degradation, I beg you to think twice. Even if you have disagreed with what I have had to say in the past, I write this, symbolically on my knees, begging you to consider what attending something as vile as this will continue to do to our great nation.

The Vagina Monologues is not liberating women. The Vagina Monologues is not educational, it is not academically-inclined, and it is not empowering. If the truth be told, the Vagina Monologues is a crash course in eroticism under the guise of women's liberation, and we must acknowledge this to put an end to this façade.

Send comments to D.J. at davidj@bgsu.edu



Don Wright KRT Campus

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of The BG News.

BABY-KILLER SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS

ELYRIA, Ohio (AP) — A woman was sentenced to six years in prison yesterday for stabbing and beating to death a newborn boy and throwing his body into a quarry with the help of her boyfriend. Jessica Coleman, 22, had concealed the pregnancy when she was 15 from family and friends.

County is violating the rights of the poor

County unfairly jails poor defendants for minor infractions

CINCINNATI (AP) — A federal judge's ruling that Hamilton County violated the rights of the poor for more than 20 years by jailing them for not paying small fines could cost the county tens of thousands of dollars in damages.

U.S. District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel ruled Tuesday that the county has jailed poor defendants for minor infractions such as traffic violations persistently since 1982.

He blamed the county's public defenders for not seeking court hearings to determine defendants' ability to pay the fines.

At least 600 poor defendants spent more than one night in jail, and as many as 100 people were locked up because they owed fines of \$20 or less, the judge said.

Spiegel said public defenders have a constitutional duty to provide effective legal representation, and failing to do so violates the rights of the defendants who ended up in jail.

"These are the poorest of the poor," said Robert Newman, the Cincinnati lawyer who sued on behalf of those who were jailed. "The only reason they are going to jail is they have no money."

Public Defender Lou Strigari said the lawyers in his office seek hearings whenever necessary.

"If the client can't pay, we're always going to say the client is indigent and can't pay," Strigari said.

The judge rejected the county argument that the Public Defender Commission should not be held responsible for the actions of individual lawyers who make tactical decisions without consulting with the commission.

"There is no tactical value in failing to uphold fundamental constitutional rights," the judge wrote.

A hearing to determine damages will be held in March, and hundreds of defendants might be eligible to receive damage payments.

Benner executed Tuesday

Family believes policy should accommodate larger families too

By John McCarthy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUCASVILLE, Ohio — Family members of one of the victims of a man executed for rape and murder wanted to watch him die but had to choose which of them would get the chance.

That was unacceptable to the 13 relatives and supporters of Trina Bowser who were at the prison where Glenn L. Benner II was executed Tuesday.

Afterward, they demanded the law be changed to accommodate large families.

"For the last 20 years, since Trina's death we her family have become victims of the Ohio Revised Code," Bowser's nephew, Scott, said, reading a prepared statement. "Someone in a position of authority ... should amend this law before the next scheduled execution."

No more than three members of the families of each victim of a capital crime are permitted to witness an execution. That meant that only three of Bowser's brothers and the parents and brother of victim Cynthia Sedgwick could watch in person as Benner died by injection.

The offender's family also is allowed three seats. Five members of the media, who must share their reports with other media, stand behind the family members in the tiny viewing room of the death



CLOSURE: Sister Alice Gerdeman, right, rings a bell signifying the start of Ohio inmate Glenn Benner's execution as demonstrators protest outside the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Ohio Tuesday.

house at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility.

Benner was convicted of kidnapping, raping and murdering Bowser, 21, in 1986, leaving her body in the trunk of her car along a highway in Tallmadge, the town where they grew up across the street from each other.

A year earlier, he had strangled Sedgwick, 26, of Cleveland Heights, in Cuyahoga Falls after a George Thorogood concert.

Attorney General Jim Petro

believes there is some flexibility in the current law, spokeswoman Kim Norris said. It says the inmate and the victim's family are allowed no more than three witnesses apiece.

"He would support an update to the law to ensure the family's wishes to witness are provided," Norris said.

At the 2002 execution of Alton Coleman, the state for the first time accommodated extra victims by allowing dozens of relatives from many victims to watch his death by closed cir-

cuit television in another room of the prison.

Coleman, executed for the beating death of a suburban Cincinnati woman, was suspected of as many as eight deaths, plus many robberies, rapes and kidnappings during a five-state crime spree in 1984 with his girlfriend, Debra Denise Brown, whose death sentence was commuted to life in prison.

Benner admitted commit-

EXECUTION, PAGE 9

STATE BRIEFING

Life of gift cards may be safe with Taft's signature

COLUMBUS (AP) — People who receive gift cards won't have to worry about the card's expiration for at least two years under a bill the Senate sent to Gov. Bob Taft yesterday.

The bill, which the House passed Tuesday, also prevents retailers from charging fees that reduce the value of the card and ensures that a card without an expiration date is valid until it is redeemed or replaced.

Gift cards given to employees as a reward or cards sold by charitable groups to raise money would be exempt.

State rep. may have broke voting law last year

AKRON (AP) — A state representative and candidate for state auditor may have violated state election law by voting in the wrong place twice last year.

State Rep. Barbara Sykes, D-Akron, said she cast the votes shortly after she and her husband moved to a house in a different city precinct. She said she informed the elections board of her move before the November election.

The Summit County Elections Board will review Sykes' voting record and residency next week.

Coshocton teens charged with plotting

Two students charged with conspiracy to commit murder

COSHOCTON, Ohio (AP) — Two girls were charged with plotting to kill a substitute teacher and several classmates, the fourth time in recent months that this type of allegation was reported at an Ohio school.

The girls, 12 and 13, were each charged Monday with one delinquency count of conspiracy to commit murder,

authorities said.

They were being held in the juvenile detention center in Muskingum County, the Coshocton County sheriff's office said. The sheriff's office received a call Friday from a Coshocton High School administrator who reported that threats had been made against the teacher and three junior high school students, said Assistant County Prosecutor Jason Given.

The girls made the threats in a notebook that they passed

back and forth during a class, Given said yesterday. Pieces of the notebook paper were later discovered by a guidance counselor in a trash can.

"These kids were caught planning to take some kind of action," county Prosecutor Robert Batchelor said.

The threatening material was "graphic and detailed," Given said. He declined to elaborate.

"Twenty or 30 years ago, people might take these kinds of threats and dismiss them, but in this day and age, you have

to take them seriously and deal with them," Given said.

The girls were arrested after a joint investigation by the school and the sheriff's school resource officer. The junior high shares a building with the high school.

"We feel this was an isolated incident and that this situation has been resolved. Our kids are safe," high school Principal Bill Hartmeyer said.

The charges in this community about 60 miles northeast of Columbus follow similar allegations two weeks ago in Bellville

in north-central Ohio.

Two 15-year-old girls, accused of making written and oral threats to a classmate at Clear Fork High School, possibly in a fight over a boy, were each charged with a felony count of conspiracy to commit murder.

Also last month, a 14-year-old boy was charged with a delinquency count of aggravated menacing after being accused of threatening classmates and a teacher at his middle school in the Columbus suburb of Dublin.

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PRISON RIOTS END IN NINETEEN INJURIES

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nineteen inmates were injured yesterday in a series of racially motivated brawls at a county jail where deadly rioting occurred last weekend, authorities said. Four inmates were transported to hospitals. Fifteen more were treated at the facility for minor injuries. No sheriff's deputies were hurt.

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NATION

NATION BRIEFING

8G NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Cancer deaths dropped in 2003

ATLANTA (AP) — For the first time in more than 70 years, annual cancer deaths in the United States have fallen, a turning point in the war on cancer likely achieved by declines in smoking and better tumor detection and treatment.

The number of cancer deaths dropped to 556,902 in 2003, down from 557,271 the year before, according to a recently completed review of U.S. death certificates by the National Center for Health Statistics.

"Even though it's a small amount, it's an important milestone," said Dr. Michael Thun, who directs epidemiological research for the American Cancer Society.

It's the first annual decrease in total cancer deaths since 1930, according to a cancer society analysis of federal death data.

Bob Marley's house now a heritage site

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The house where Bob Marley once lived has been designated a protected national heritage site by the Jamaican government.

A ceremony to mark the designation took place Tuesday at the home, now a museum that showcases the recording studio Marley built as well as memorabilia that the star once owned.

Marley, who died in 1981 at age 36, is widely credited with introducing reggae music to an international audience in the 1970s.



SIGNING THE BUDGET: President Bush with members of Congress as he prepares to sign the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 in the East Room of the White House yesterday.

Bush defends budget

Calls for the trimming of Medicare by \$35.9 billion over five years

By Jennifer Loven
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANCHESTER, N.H. — President Bush defended his new budget blueprint on yesterday amid criticism from both parties over plans to trim popular health benefit programs. He then signed an earlier installment of scaled-back spending.

Bush made similar pitches for spending restraint at a business forum in New Hampshire, and later at the bill-signing ceremony at the White House, where he praised steps that he said would both check federal

spending and "leave more money in the pockets of those who know how to use it best, the American people."

At the White House, he signed a measure — left over from his 2005 agenda — that restrains spending in Medicare, Medicaid and some other federal programs by \$39 billion over five years.

The signing came two days after Bush sent Congress a \$2.77 trillion plan for the budget year that begins Oct. 1.

The budget blueprint calls for trimming spending in Medicare by \$35.9 billion over five years.

Bush's budget plan for fiscal 2007 proposes that spending on Medicare, the government health program for the elderly

and disabled, would grow at a rate of 7.7 percent — instead of 8.1 percent, as currently projected.

Bush told his New Hampshire audience that rising spending on such entitlement programs was the greatest danger to the nation's future fiscal health.

He sent his budget to Capitol Hill on Monday. Critics said it was going nowhere.

In the president's own party, Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania called proposed cuts in education and health "scandalous," while Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, said she was "disappointed and even surprised" at the extent of the administration's proposals for Medicaid and Medicare.

Amid oil price drop, Dow up 100 points

Rumors of Pfizer Inc. buyout propels the stock market

By Ellen Simon
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — A drop in oil prices and strong earnings at PepsiCo Inc. and Cisco Systems Inc. propelled stocks higher yesterday, with the Dow Jones industrial average surging more than 100 points. Reports that Pfizer Inc. might sell its consumer products business contributed to the advance.

Wall Street's major indexes built momentum throughout the afternoon, climbing higher as the close neared. But with investors still concerned about interest rates, analysts viewed the market's jump with caution.

"The market was a little oversold," said Russ Koesterich, senior portfolio manager at Barclays Global Investments in San Francisco. "I think this (the run-up) is mostly technical. I don't think you can read too much into it, since there weren't a lot of drivers."

Cisco, which closed up 7.2 percent, led tech and telecom stocks higher after its earnings exceeded analysts' expectations. An upgrade of Dell Inc. also helped the tech sector.

Investors who had lost patience with drug maker Pfizer applauded news it was mulling a sale or spin off of the consumer business, which includes Listerine mouth wash, Visine eye drops and Lubriderm skin lotion. Its stock rose 5.7 percent.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow rose 108.86, or 1.01 percent, to 10,858.62.

Broader stock indicators were higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 10.87, or 0.87 percent, to 1,265.65, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 22.02, or 0.98 percent, to 2,266.98.

The indexes moved sharply higher after the S&P 500 pierced 1,260, said Ryan Larson, equity trader at

Voyageur Asset Management, a subsidiary of RBC Dain Rauscher. Traders had been seeing 1,260 as a "resistance level" for the index — a price ceiling that has, in past sessions, triggered a sell-off.

"Once the S&P broke through that, it was kind of a herd mentality: One goes, they all go," Larson said.

Sentiment also improved as crude oil prices declined for the second day. Crude oil settled at \$62.55 a barrel, down 54 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Crude oil fell \$2.02 a barrel Tuesday.

In company news, networking gear provider Cisco Systems rose \$1.31 to \$19.40 after its fiscal second-quarter earnings, excluding one-time items, beat analysts' expectations. In its earnings report, which followed the close of trading Tuesday, the company said its profits dropped, hampered by stock-option expenses, but sales rose on strong business orders.

Technology stocks were also helped by Sanford Bernstein's upgrade of Dell Inc. to "outperform" from "market perform." Sanford Bernstein analyst Toni Sacconaghi said the computer company's business model "remains intact. Dell rose

\$1.83, or 6.2 percent, to \$31.52. PepsiCo, the world's second-largest soft-drink maker after The Coca-Cola Co., rose 42 cents to \$57.28 after it reported fourth-quarter earnings rose 13 percent. The company benefited from an extra selling week in the quarter and sales growth across its Frito-Lay, Quaker Foods and beverage operations.

Dow component Pfizer rose \$1.43 to \$26.37.

Advancing issues led declines by roughly 10 to 7 on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume was 1.79 billion shares, up from 1.78 billion at the same time Tuesday.

Overseas, Japan's Nikkei stock average fell 2.68 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 lost 0.38 percent, Germany's DAX index slid 0.11 percent, and France's CAC-40 fell 0.82 percent.

Patients taking drugs may be at risk

People with ADHD suffered serious heart problems, says study

By Andrew Bridges
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Twenty-five people died suddenly and another 54 suffered serious cardiovascular problems after

taking drugs to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder between 1999 and 2003, the government says.

Children accounted for 19 of the deaths and 26 of the cases of nonfatal cardiovascular problems, including heart attack, stroke, hypertension, palpitations and arrhythmia, according to a Food and

Drug Administration report released yesterday.

The report's release came a day before an FDA panel was to discuss new ways of examining the potential cardiovascular risks of the drugs, which include drugs such as Ritalin, Concerta, Methylphenidate and Metadate.

The few studies that have looked at longer-term use of

ADHD drugs provide little information on those risks, the FDA said. The cardiovascular risks include heart attack, stroke, hypertension, palpitations and arrhythmia.

Sales of drugs to treat ADHD increased sharply in recent years, with use growing faster among adults than children, according to a recent study.

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NATION BRIEFING

Nerve agent scare at Capitol building

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—A Capitol office building was evacuated yesterday night after sensors indicated the presence of a nerve agent, but subsequent tests proved negative. "Tests initially indicated a nerve agent," said Capitol Police Sgt. Kimberly Schneider. "A subsequent test indicated it is not a nerve agent."

Men on trial again for student deaths

WASHINGTON, Pa. (AP)—Two men accused of killing two Ohio college students will be tried separately. Darrell Yarbrough and Nathan Herring were convicted by an Ohio jury in the 1999 killings of the two students at Franciscan University in Steubenville.

The convictions were overturned because of jurisdictional questions: The students were kidnapped in Ohio, but killed in Washington County, Pa.

Benner apologizes, then put to death

EXECUTION, FROM PAGE 6

ting horrific crimes while under the influence of drugs. He had refused to ask for his life to be spared because he said the process does not consider whether a person changes in prison.

He smiled at relatives and nodded toward the victims' families when he entered the execution chamber.

"Over the last 20 years I've caused you unimaginable pain and I'm sorry. Trina and Cynthia were beautiful girls who didn't deserve what I done to them. They are in a better place. I pray that God will grant you peace," Benner said just before he died.

Bradley Bowser, one of Trina's brothers in the viewing room, said softly, "That won't get you into heaven, ace."

Rodney Bowser met face-to-face with Benner at his holding cell about two hours

before the execution. Bowser had requested the meeting, saying he had questions he wanted to ask Benner, his boyhood friend.

"We relived the whole night, and he filled everything in. He answered everything," Bowser said in a telephone interview Tuesday afternoon. He declined to discuss details of their conversation.

Rodney Bowser and his parents discovered Trina's car along the highway on a winter night after the young secretary didn't return from visiting a girlfriend.

Sedgwick's body was found in the woods at Blossom Music Center near Akron, and several witnesses saw Benner carrying her into the area. Her parents and brother were at the execution but did not comment.

He was the 20th man Ohio has executed since resuming the death penalty in 1999.

Monologue awkward for some

VAGINA, FROM PAGE 2

Finally, they wanted to select a cast of performers who were interested in the "activist" aspect of the show.

"This show is really an activist statement," Tomlin-Brenner said. "Not even everyone in the cast has previous theater experience, and that's fine. It's not about the actors or the actors."

But Geyer said many of the cast members are natural performers, including freshman Shacorrha Crosby, who is performing the monologue "The Little Coochi Snorcher That Could."

Crosby said although she was at first a bit uncomfortable reading her monologue, working with Geyer, Tomlin-Brenner and the rest of the cast gradually put her at ease.

"Their criticism and help and understanding what the show is all about — it's telling someone else's story," Crosby said. "Understanding what the monologue was about helped me get comfortable with the show."

Crosby said her monologue tells the tale of "a woman from the South who goes through rough things in childhood and then when she's a teenager, she has a sexual experience that changes her."

Tomlin-Brenner said some of the monologues in the show, such as "My Angry Vagina," which delves into the trials and tribulations of a woman's menstrual cycle, are funny and lighthearted. Others, she said, showcase women in "war-torn areas where their sexuality is affected by being somewhere where they can't express it."

Tomlin-Brenner said the show

offers something for everyone — even those who have already seen a production of the Vagina Monologues.

"It's different every time you see it because it will be funny in a different way, or sad in a different way, or introspective in a different way," Tomlin-Brenner said.

Geyer agreed. "Every person puts a different spin on each monologue," she said. "And even if it was the exact same show, people should still come because it's for a good cause."

But Tomlin-Brenner said she hopes the show will continue to attract new viewers with each performance — including tonight's.

"I really want to reach the people who think it's really liberal or that it's not their thing," she said. "I'd like for people to say, man, I'd like to get involved with either the play or with some of these organizations, because I know my life has been altered by it."

"I feel like, if you can't take your boyfriend to this show, why are then you with him."

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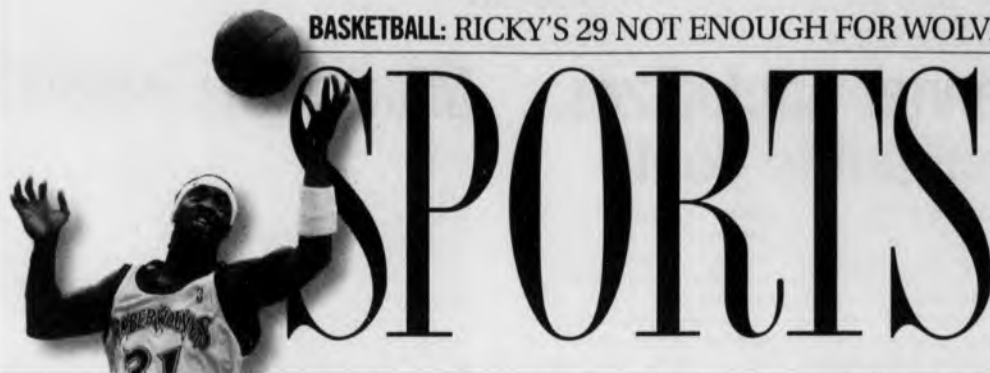
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BG will host Gophers in 2008 season

The Minnesota football team will travel to BGSU in 2008 to play the Falcons on Sept. 6 at Doyt Perry Stadium, the first time BG has hosted a Big Ten opponent.

The Gophers finished 7-5 this year, losing to Virginia in the Music City Bowl. The Falcons will open their 2006 schedule against Wisconsin at Cleveland Browns Stadium.



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TRACK

BG ends indoor season in Findlay

Falcons hope to gain momentum heading into outdoor season

By Adam Miezin
REPORTER

It's getting to be that time of year again. This is the crucial time of the year for track and field. The indoor season is nearly completed, with the outdoor meets right around the corner.

But, before BGSU can take to the tracks outside of Doyt Perry Stadium, it must run in the two biggest events of their short indoor season.

The first of the two will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in Findlay at the All-Ohio Championships, which matches up the best runners from the best schools in the state. There will be seven or eight Division I schools in attendance to go along with many Division II schools and a few Division III athletes.

The Falcons have a few runners that have been impressive so far in the indoor season. Jamie Roflow has improved race by race, even enough to warrant NCAA consideration in the 3,000-meter run. She was 6.4 seconds short of provisional qualifying last Friday at the BGSU Quadrangular.

She has also run the mile and the 5,000-meter run, but is expected to run the mile and the distance medley relay this weekend. Either way, she is sure to be close to the front of the pack, if her previous results are any indication.

"We have a solid chance to win both events (mile and DMR)," said BG coach Scott Sehmman. "Jamie has put herself in a good position through quality training and solid races this winter to be at her best for the meet."

The other big success story of the season for the Falcons

are their throwers, namely the shot put team. Last weekend, they continued their success by finishing 1-2-4 in the shot put. Paris Bussey was champion, with Takara Dunning grabbing second and Whitney Hartman finishing fourth overall.

"The meet will once again be competitive in the throws and our ladies will have to be on to score multiple places in the events and to have a chance to contend for the win," Sehmman said.

These events seem to give the Falcons the best chance to get some big point totals up on the board. The quality of the athletes over quantity may also be the key for BGSU.

"We may have fewer athletes that are capable of being, in the hunt this year than in past [years] but the ones that we will put on the line are true competitors and have a great deal of pride in what they will bring to the meet," Sehmman said.

Sehmman realizes the league competition is tough and knows that his team has been doing its best so far.

"I am very proud of those who have stepped up to the challenge of this sport and the competitive league they are apart of and look forward to seeing them give all of themselves every time they step out to compete," Sehmman said.

The Falcons' chances hinge on these key athletes and hopefully the depth of the team will come in handy as well. Training is the key to a good track performance and Sehmman said the team has been increasing intensity in practice and changing diets a bit to help boost the immune systems.

BGSU's track team may be ready to turn the corner and head into the outdoor season, but are they ready to cross the finish line on a stellar indoor season?

"...our ladies will have to be on to score multiple places in the events..."

SCOTT SEHMMAN,
COACH



Brandon Heiss BG News

SAND STORM: Amanda Sefcik lands a jump during last weekend's quad meet at the Fieldhouse.

Cincinnati brings on Krivsky as new GM

By Joe Kay
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Minnesota's Wayne Krivsky was hired yesterday as the Cincinnati Reds' next general manager, ending a two-week search that involved eight candidates.

Krivsky was a leading candidate for the job two years ago, but former owner Carl Lindner chose Dan O'Brien, who had worked for the Houston Astros and Texas Rangers. O'Brien was fired last month by new owner Bob Castellini, who wanted to bring in his own executive to run the baseball operation.

Castellini chose someone who knows small-market success. The Twins won three straight AL Central titles from 2002-04 with comparable payrolls.

Krivsky, 51, worked for the Rangers before the Twins hired him in 1994 as a special assistant. He has spent the last eight years as assistant general manager, involved in all aspects of running the team.

"Probably the goal of his life was to become a general manager, and it's become reality," Twins general manager Terry Ryan said. "He's bright. He's organized. He's a relentless worker. He's the type of guy that pays attention to detail. He's good with rules. He's good with contracts. He's a good evaluator."

"He's got a lot of the attributes that you would want to associate with a general manager."

Krivsky got a two-year contract from the Reds that includes mutual options for two additional years.

The Reds are coming off their fifth straight losing season, their longest such streak in 50 years. Krivsky's biggest challenge will be to significantly upgrade the Reds' pitching staff, which had the NL's worst earned run average last season and has been among the league's worst overall for several years.

Cincinnati had the NL's top offense last year, but couldn't overcome the lack of a dependable rotation and bullpen. The

KRIVSKY, PAGE 11

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

BG continues dominance of MAC, topping Northern

Falcons are just the second team in BG history to start 19-2

By John Turner
REPORTER

Entering last night's game against Mid-American Conference West division rival Northern Illinois, the BGSU women's basketball team had a lot to lose.

The Falcons went into the game with nine consecutive wins, 15 home wins in a row and 15 consecutive victories over MAC opponents. BG had a lot to lose last night, but luckily for Falcon fans, losing isn't in this team's vocabulary.

Liz Honegger led the way for the Falcons with 18 points en route to a 66-58 victory over the Huskies. The win gave the Falcons the all-time series lead 13-12. Honegger was aided by Ali Mann and Kate Achter, who scored 12 points each. The victory boosts the Falcons' record

		vs.		
	58		66	
		1	2	T
NIU	24	34	—	58
BGSU	27	39	—	66

to 19-2 overall and 11-0 in MAC play.

"Today, you'd consider this a win where we survived and that's what I think you need to do when you win a lot of games throughout the course of the season," said BG coach Curt Miller.

In a game that was tied eight times and saw six lead changes, BG was always able to stay with in striking distance. The Huskies (9-13, 5-6) went on a 7-0 run midway through the second half, picking up a two-point lead and a lot of momentum. Less than two minutes later, Honegger hit

a 3-pointer that would put BG up for good.

"We just continue to find ways to win games and you know it was a battle tonight but they came ready for us again," Honegger said.

With the Huskies threatening in the final minutes, BG's Amber Flynn came up with the defensive stop of the night when she drew an offensive foul inside. BG retained possession and Achter went to the free-throw line, connecting on both attempts.

"All day I said the difference in the game will be, can we get a charge," Miller said. "[Flynn] got a real big charge."

BG's 19-2 start is tied for the program's best mark through 21 games. The last Falcon team to experience this much success during span was the 1986-87 BG squad, which went 27-2 on their way to an NCAA tournament



Julie DiFranco BG News

AROUND THE HORNE: BG's Carin Horne dribbles around an NIU defender during the Falcons' 66-58 win last night at Anderson Arena. BG's 19-2 record is the tied for best in program history.

WOMEN, PAGE 11

Cavs top T'Wolves, 97-91

By Jon Krawczynski
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MINNEAPOLIS — LeBron James dominated in the fourth quarter while Kevin Garnett disappeared.

James scored 12 of his 35 points in the fourth to lift the Cleveland Cavaliers over the Minnesota Timberwolves 97-91 yesterday night.

In a matchup of two of the most successful players to make the jump from high school to the NBA, James and Garnett needed plenty of help from their teammates in this one.

James got off to a slow start and was just 11-of-34 from the field, but he made the big shots when Cleveland needed them most, following a turnaround jumper on the low block with a 3-pointer that gave the Cavs a nine-point lead with 3 minutes

to play.

Garnett was just 1-for-5 in the fourth quarter and finished with 21 points, 18 rebounds and six assists.

The Timberwolves went on a 6-0 run late in the game to cut Cleveland's lead to 90-88 with 36 seconds to go, but James came right back with a driving layup to hand Minnesota its fourth loss in five games.

James added 11 rebounds and eight assists, just missing out on a triple-double for the second straight game. He also had plenty of help from Zydrunas Ilgauskas and Donyell Marshall.

Ilgauskas scored 10 of his 21 points in the first quarter and Marshall had 10 points and 13 rebounds.

The Cavaliers trailed by 15 midway through the first quarter, but their control of the

boards allowed them to creep back in the game.

Cleveland outrebounded Minnesota 51-41.

At times it appeared as if Garnett was left to battle the Cavs alone on the boards, and it clearly wore him down in the closing minutes.

Ricky Davis led the Timberwolves with 33 points, and his 29-foot 3-pointer made the score 93-91 with 9.3 seconds left, but Ilgauskas and James closed the game out at the free throw line.

Playing against one of his former teams, Davis scored 13 points in the first quarter to help Minnesota to a 15-point lead. But the Wolves followed up 55-percent shooting in the first quarter by shooting 34 percent the rest of the way to let the lead slip away.

Few concerns for Lady Falcons

WOMEN, FROM PAGE 10

berth.

"We're all great friends on and off the court," Honegger said. "I think that plays a part in our success."

Flynn echoed her teammate's feelings on the secret behind what's making this Falcon team one for the history books.

"Our team has great chemistry — we're always there for each other no matter what," she said. "I just don't think we could do this without each other."

BG now has a commanding lead over Kent State (7-3 MAC) in the East. The Falcons only have six games left against conference opponents before the MAC tournament begins in early March. Still, the team is focused on what they set out to do at the start of the season — taking every game seriously and not glancing ahead at the schedule.

"The only thing that concerns me as a coach is that we still look at it game by game," Miller said.

Still, players like Honegger can't help but to be excited about the potential of an undefeated MAC season.

"It's a blast," Honegger said. "We're just having a great time winning right now."



Julie DiFranco BG News

LOOK OUT: BG's Liz Honegger drives the lane last night at Anderson Arena during her team's 66-58 win over Northern Illinois.



Al Behrman AP Photo

IN CHARGE: Wayne Krivsky breaks into a smile during a news conference in Cincinnati after he was hired as the Reds' general manager, ending a two-week search that involved eight candidates.

Krivsky looks to improve Cincy's poor pitching staff

KRIVSKY, FROM PAGE 10

Reds let starter Ramon Ortiz leave after the season, and got left-handed starter Dave Williams from Pittsburgh in a trade for Sean Casey.

The Reds failed to develop pitching under general manager Jim Bowden, who was fired in 2003, midway through the first season at Great American Ball Park. During Bowden's tenure, several pitching prospects hurt their arms in the minors.

O'Brien instituted a pitch limit in the minors to try to cut down on the injuries. He also gave left-hander Eric Milton a \$25.5 million, three-year deal to upgrade the rotation, a move

that immediately backfired. Milton went 8-15 and gave up 40 homers last season, the most in the majors.

O'Brien had a year left on his contract when he was fired on Jan. 23. Others interviewed for the job were Philadelphia assistant general manager Mike Arbuckle, St. Louis assistant John Mozeliak, Atlanta vice president Frank Wren, and four in-house candidates: special assistant Leland Maddox, international scouting director Johnny Almaraz, special adviser Jim Beattie, and Brad Kullman, who served as GM during the search process.

Krivsky won't have much room to make an immediate

impact. The Reds plan to keep their payroll around \$60 million — same as last season — and the roster is generally set with the start of spring training only one week away.

He will have to resolve an arbitration case with Adam Dunn, who is asking for a raise from his \$4.6 million salary last season to \$8.95 million. The club has countered with an offer of \$7.1 million. Dunn's arbitration hearing is scheduled for Feb. 17.

Krivsky also could make a trade during spring training. Other teams have shown an interest in outfielder Austin Kearns, who will make \$1.85 million next season.

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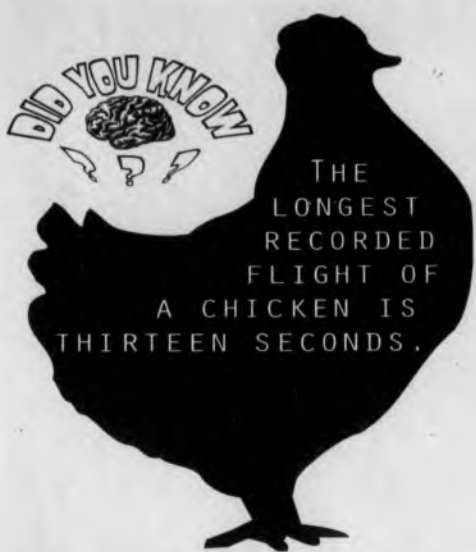
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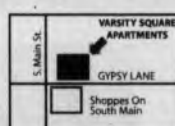
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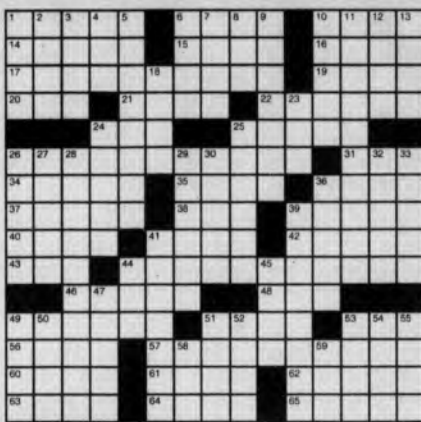


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ACROSS

- 1 Closes
- 6 Young equine
- 10 Writer's tools
- 14 Caste member
- 15 Inactive
- 16 Came down
- 17 Start of Evan Esar quote
- 19 Get up
- 20 May celebrant
- 21 Degrees for ABA members
- 22 Surpass in cunning
- 24 Roman gods
- 25 Thin band
- 26 Part 2 of quote
- 31 Some linemen: abbr.
- 34 Also known as
- 35 Roman tyrant
- 36 Radar spot
- 37 British weight
- 38 Easter item
- 39 Muse of poetry
- 40 "Bus Stop" playwright

- 41 CX minus III
- 42 Tortilla chip
- 43 Certain mil. installation
- 44 Part 3 of quote
- 46 "My Cherie"
- 48 Nothing at all
- 49 Waterborne
- 51 '60s rock musical
- 53 DDE's command
- 56 Describe
- 57 End of quote
- 60 Cosmetic ingredient
- 61 City on the Truckee
- 62 Past, present or future
- 63 Tenant's expense
- 64 Dutch cheese
- 65 "Easter 1916" poet

- 1 Deceptive appearance
- 2 Ritz rival
- 3 E pluribus
- 4 6-pointers
- 5 Rent from a renter
- 6 Locate
- 7 Chances
- 8 The Greatest
- 9 African nation
- 10 Series starter
- 11 "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" co-star
- 12 Unless, in law
- 13 Proofer's mark
- 18 Arabic letter
- 23 Mary of "Where Eagles Dare"
- 24 Diplomat Silas
- 25 Garcia of golf
- 26 Cicero's language
- 27 Old-time actress
- 28 Chinook
- 29 The nerve!
- 30 Mr. Philbin
- 32 Church contribution
- 33 Place setting part
- 36 Melee
- 39 Sum total
- 41 High fashion
- 44 Region on the SW coast of India
- 45 College credit
- 47 Impressionist painter
- 49 Banned spray
- 50 Nail smoother
- 51 Maui tourist destination
- 52 Bit of physics
- 53 Writer Ferber
- 54 Exam
- 55 Poetic tributes
- 58 Composer Rorem
- 59 Born as

ANSWERS



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Bowling Green State University

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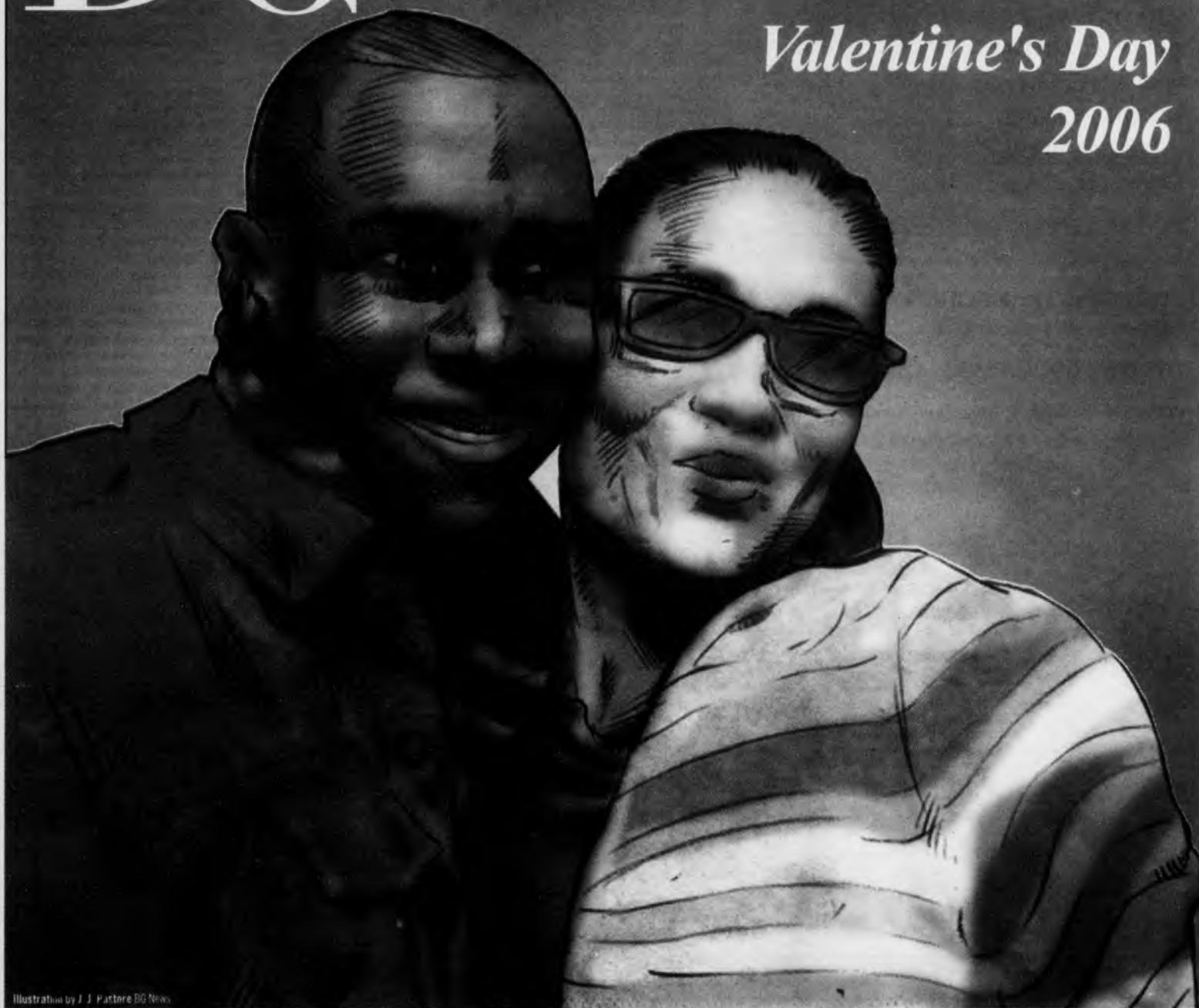


Illustration by J. J. Partee BG News

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CHOCOLATE, PAGE 8



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Women not always clear on gift ideas

Presents carry deeper meaning for ladies



D. J. JOHNSON

Asst. Opinion Editor

Do you want to know why guys don't know what to get girls for St. Valentine's Day?

The reason guys don't know what to get girls on Valentine's Day is because girls don't know what they want.

My accusation sounds off-base, but this isn't my opinion.

Baby, this is a fact.

If a woman is lucky enough to have a man for Valentine's Day, a flood of questions decorate her mind. What is he going to get me? Does he even know it's Valentine's

Day? Is he cheating on me? Is tonight going to be the night?

With all of these insecurities, it's no wonder that Valentine's Day becomes another stress-inducing holiday that ruins lives.

Deep down, what a real girl wants is to know that her man really loves her. Deep down, there's nothing more intimate than knowing that there's no place else that he'd rather be than with her.

But in our sex-and-run society, a woman will never really know if she's the object of his eyes. Men and women's cerebral wavelengths are so incongruent that a woman's insecurities will never be calmed.

In a sense, there is nothing a

WOMEN, PAGE 8

Sending cards another way to say love

Mailing to friends, family thoughtful way to show appreciation

By Candice Jones
REPORTER

Giving and receiving Valentine's Day cards is a childhood memory for many people, but just because the Care Bears lost their popularity doesn't mean the cards did.

Around Valentine's Day, on campus mailboxes are likely to fill up with red and pink envelopes.

Troy Lacy, campus postal manager, has witnessed the Valentine's Day tradition firsthand.

"Valentine's Day is bigger than Christmas," he said.

At Stampers, the on-campus post office, the incoming mail around Valentine's Day is three times that of a regular day. Students aren't just receiving valentines though, they're sending them too. The outgoing campus mail near Valentine's Day is about twice as much as outgoing mail on an average day.

More than 192 million valentines

will be sent out this year, according to Hallmark. For Hallmark, the most popular valentines are those with romantic messages. Jessica Ong, Hallmark's Valentine's Day product manager, thinks that the Valentine's Day message is simple.

"On Valentine's Day people just want love and romance," she said.

Of all the cards that Hallmark sells, more than half are romantically themed. But valentines are not just for couples. Elizabeth

CARDS, PAGE 8

Married teachers enjoy working close

Teaching couple lives among students, share many interests together

By Kelly Day
REPORTER

You may have seen them walking across campus, or eating a healthy lunch in your dining hall and wondered why such a unique couple comes to campus every day.

M. Neil Browne and wife of 26

years, Nancy Kubasek — who often wear colorful designer clothing — stand out in a crowd of typical Northwest Ohio college students wearing hooded sweatshirts and jeans.

But there is more to this couple than their choice of style.

While most married couples prefer to part ways in the morning, Browne and Kubasek choose to teach on the same campus because they enjoy being with each other.

"We not only teach on the same campus, but we're one floor apart, and in the same college," said Browne, professor of economics.

This degree of closeness is something most married couples never experience, according to Kubasek, professor of legal studies.

"I think for some people it would be too much," she said. "It just seems to work out really well for us."

COUPLE, PAGE 8

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Easy Street provides off-campus dining option



MELISSA
TOPEY

Reporter

Looking for a place to go this Valentine's Day that won't break the budget? Easy Street Cafe is a place where good food and good conversation come together in a warm atmosphere that appeals to University students, as well as locals.

When you walk in, you smell good food coming from the kitchen. The lighting is subdued but not so low that you can't see the wonderful pictures on the walls. Pick a booth with a picture of your favorite celebrity, such as Barbara Streisand, Bing Crosby or Ray Charles, looking on as you grab a bite to eat with a friend.

Easy Street Cafe is not large, but that adds a touch of comfort and warmth.

The staff is friendly and attentive. They enjoy one another and they enjoy their regular customers.

Andrea Knight, one of the bartenders, points out that of the four customers eating at the bar, three are regular customers.

Knight said that a lot of the staff have been at the Easy Street Cafe for several years. She actually returned to work at the restaurant after moving back to Bowling Green.

Ann Courtney, a server,

EASY STREET, PAGE 7

Campus Corners gets revamped for Valentine's Day

By Andy Duriel
REPORTER

The scent of the roses will carry throughout the room. Scarlet tablecloths will decorate the tables. A chef may be seen from the dining room making desserts flambe. This will be the transformation that Campus Corners will go through for Valentine's Day.

Being the only restaurant-type atmosphere on campus at dinner-time, there is already a sense of how different Campus Corners is from the cafeteria-type food that is tradi-

tionally served at any college.

Sophomores Brittany Burke and Nikki Matheson often eat at Campus Corners. The pair echoed each other when they explained why they choose to eat here on campus.

"It is better than the dining halls because there is more of a variety," they said. "There is also a better casual setting than what the dining halls have to offer."

Having such a nice atmosphere on a normal night, Campus Corners will easily convert their restaurant into a lovely Valentine's Day setting.

Not only will the restaurant's setting change temporarily, but so will the menu.

The selection for the night will have a special dinner for two: an appetizer, a choice from two of the available entrees, and a special dessert prepared by first-year chef, Matt James.

James will not only be making those desserts flambe taste extraordinary, but he will also be preparing this food.

Manager Ryan Czech, who originally came up with the decorations

surrounding the dining room, also thought that it would be interesting for customers to be entertained by the food's preparation.

The servers are also excited for what could be their busiest night of the semester.

Current employee Joanna Podsiadlo is very excited about the upcoming night.

"There will be a lot of people here on Valentine's Day and we anticipate a big crowd," said Podsiadlo. "I am

CORNERS, PAGE 7

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JIM LEVASSEUR

The Love Doctor

DEAR LOVE DOCTOR: Valentine's Day is coming up, and I don't have a gift for my girlfriend. I know she's expecting something fantastic, but I honestly have no ideas; what should I do? — *Worried in BG*

DEAR WORRIED: Ah, the age-old gift dilemma. Many of my peers would recommend traditional gifts like chocolate, flowers and vacuum cleaners — which aren't bad, per se, but you should probably save those types of gifts for your twenty-fifth wedding anniversary or something. Instead, my years of research indicate that women prefer gifts personalized to their unique

selves, which (this is the hard part) requires constant vigilance and observation by men.

For example, let's say your girlfriend doesn't take showers. The majority of guys, observant as ever, will notice this after a month or two but not know what to do. Allow me to recommend the purchase of a nice bar of soap, or perhaps some shampoo.

If you really care about this person, you could even splurge on a three-dollar bottle of conditioner. I guarantee she'll be speechless in that "oh my God, I can't believe you just gave me this" sort of way.

But if your girlfriend is one of those silly people who bathes regularly, you're not out of luck — you can still prove that you pay attention to her. Maybe she's really good at giving massages; in that case, I suggest creating some homemade coupons.

I mean, think about it: how often does she get to show off her skills? With your coupons, she'll be able to practice her massage techniques while relaxing you at the same time. What more could she want?

And if all else fails, pay six dollars and write a message on the windows of the GT Express. I can't think of a better way to say "I love you" than on the side of a convenience store for the rest of the world to see.

DEAR LOVE DOCTOR: Sometimes my girlfriend talks to other guys and the way she does it bothers me. For example, we'll be walking around campus and some guy she knows from class will say hi to her, and she'll be like, "Hey," back, or even sometimes, "How's it going?" Whenever this happens I get angry and we always fight. Is she cheating on me? Who's right here? — *Jealous in Toledo*

DEAR JEALOUS: Ordinarily in these types of situations I would say you're being a little overzealous, but in this case I feel your response is justified. Oh, and tell your girlfriend I said hi.

The Love Doctor is not responsible for any problems that may result from following the above advice. Send new questions to him at jlevass@bgsu.edu.

Movie Review

"Pride and Prejudice"



Working Title Films
Studio Canal



Valentine's Day comes but once a year and within that year there are plenty of films. Within many of those films there is plenty of romance. Most are of the light-hearted nature such as "Just Like Heaven," "Fever Pitch" and "Hitch," but truly romantic films are few and far between. For this Valentine's Day, try a romantic film with *The BG News* pick for the best romance story of 2005.

Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" is a beautiful, classic romance story. The novel transfers seamlessly, despite being shortened from the original text (the mini series in 1995 was 5 hours long), to the big screen with the 2005 adaptation directed by Joe Wright and starring Keira Knightley as Elizabeth Bennet and Matthew Macfadyen as

the stoic Mr. Darcy.

Set in 18th century England, the film focuses in on the Bennet family and the mother's hectic mission to marry off her five daughters. The story begins when Elizabeth meets Mr. Darcy at the town ball. Their initial impressions are that of distaste, but their relationship develops into something else entirely only to be challenged by the barriers of their society.

The narrative unfolds with great timing and chemistry. It is the little things in this film that make it stand out from other romances. Whether it was a gentle hand hold during a dance or a quick glance of intrigue, the nuances of how love evolves is realistically portrayed.

The acting is fantastic and believable. Keira Knightley puts on an Oscar-worthy performance. The chemistry of the father and daughter relationship between Knightley and Donald Sutherland, who plays Mr. Bennet, is a moving interaction.

The dialogue is quick-witted and sharp, but the era's dialect might take a moment to get used to. The relationships are complimented nicely through the surrounding environments as the film brings in the audience and allows them to be a part of the story.

Bottom line: This is *The BG News'* pick for best romantic film because it is a timeless classic that captures young love. The film is stylish and graceful but captures the ups and downs of life's relationships. So grab a loved one and cuddle up with this romantic classic.

— Jennifer Kuhn

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Pat Dorsman BG News

DINING TOGETHER: BGSU student couple Dave Keen and Brittanie Serva sit down for a romantic dinner at Easy Street Cafe.

Cafe is easy on budget

EASY STREET, FROM PAGE 5

came to the restaurant when she needed a job and asked a friend who already worked at Easy Street if they were hiring. That was more than two years ago. She said that she can make the same amount of money in a shorter amount of time.

"I am a single mom and here I can work a seven-hour shift instead of a 12-hour shift," Courtney said.

Vic Pirooz has owned the restaurant for the past 19 years after buying it from a company named Trade Winds. Vic said he decided to have a contest to name the restaurant.

"It was a student and her mother who named the restaurant," he said.

If you have a date for Valentine's Day, think about the Easy Street Cafe.

"You can bring a date to a nice place and not pinch the wallet," Pirooz said. There will be Valentine's Day specials to take advantage of.

When asked, he said the reason Easy Street is popular with college students is due to the uniqueness of the restaurant's atmosphere, the quality of food and the portions they serve.

This was echoed by University

graduate student Byron Solomon.

"I would recommend somebody going there if they were looking for a nice quaint place with decent prices," he said.

For those who want to eat good food but still are health-conscious, Pirooz said the restaurant uses 100 percent canola oil in the fryers and whole-grain breads for a meal that tastes good, but is healthier than it might be otherwise.

In case you don't already know, they carry 85 types of domestic and imported beers. If you try all 85 you are inducted into the Hall of Foam Club, complete with your name on a plaque, which is on display at the restaurant.

After dinner, go upstairs to Grumpy Dave's Bar. Something is always going on.

On Monday nights, test your card skills with a euchre tournament. Be warned that the tournament usually fills up the place, so make sure you call at 7 p.m. to sign up.

If playing cards is not your thing, but laughter is, check out Tuesday nights and allow some comedians to entertain you.

On Friday and Saturday starting at 10 p.m., you can listen to live music.

Whatever your taste, something

Spend the holiday on campus

CORNERS, FROM PAGE 5

not upset working on Valentine's Day—to me it is like another day, but with a special twist to it."

Podsiadlo likes working at Campus Corners because the hours are very flexible with the restaurant only open four days a week, Monday through Thursday.

Some students might wonder why it is not opened for longer, or on the weekends. Czech realizes these concerns.

"We are not open on the weekends due to people going home," Czech said. "It is not worth it financially to stay open if a good amount of the students do not stay over the weekend."

The restaurant is not open for lunch because the Union's Greenery, which is Corner's counterpart, is open at that time. While one is open for lunch, the other will be open for dinner, and everyone will be happy, management said.

Feb. 14 might be just an average day to people who think of it as a Hallmark Holiday, or just another hit to their wallets caused by commercialism. But the people that are responsible for revamping Campus Corners into a romantic place for that one night will be busy with preparations.

Editor's note: Campus Corners is located in McDonald Dining Center. Management recommends that students make reservations in advance.



Jordan Flower BG News

MEAL FOR TWO: A couple of three years, Junior Michelle Wood and Sophomore Byran Szczepanski enjoy a meal together at Campus Corners.

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Gifts, sweets for many tastes

CHOCOLATE, FROM PAGE 2

late covered pretzels, caramels, several different types of barks, Heavenly Hash — which is chocolate with marshmallows and nuts — and some of the other traditional candies and cremes that chocolate shops traditionally sell.

But for customers lacking a sweet-tooth, the store also has a wide variety of gift sets. They sell fine crystal, gourmet food items, pet products, rhythm clocks and Good Home Company products, which have appeared on Oprah's Favorite Things show.

"We started on the basis of chocolate, but we kind of built a gift line around it," Hinton said. "It's a good mix."



MOUTHWATERING: Shopper Elisabeth Hrvatin picks from an array of fine chocolates at Alyssa Lee's in the Woodland Mall. Kim Ringler (right) has worked at the chocolate store since its opening in March 2005.

Elisabeth Squire BG News

Mixed feelings in giving cards

CARDS, FROM PAGE 4

Bramlish, sophomore, doesn't put a limit on her valentines.

"I send them to my friends and my family," she said. "It's fun."

Bramlish is not alone. Scott Doe, freshman, plans to send a valentine to his mother, although he admits he doesn't get caught up in the holiday.

"I don't particularly enjoy Valentine's Day," Doe said.

Just like all valentine messag-

es are different, so are people's opinions of them. Holly Blanton, junior, is not amused by the idea of a valentine.

"Materialistic things like valentines shouldn't matter in a relationship," she said.

Usually around \$4 plus stamp, valentines are moneymakers. Ong expects Hallmark's top-selling valentine this year to be from their new line called "Heart Song." These appear to be average cards from the outside, but when

opened, they play a song.

The bells and whistles don't win everyone over though. Zac Patrick, sophomore, thinks that the extra trimmings are all too much.

"I think it is the most overrated holiday on the planet," he said.

Kelly Gawinek, sophomore, is a self-proclaimed lover of Valentine's Day. But she does not buy into the novelties.

"It's not about cards; Valentine's Day is all about love," she said.

Valentine's tough on all

WOMEN, FROM PAGE 4

man can do to prove that he really loves her. It might be that love is an archaic term that is outdated and used only by Hallmark to sell their Valentine's Day greeting cards. It might be that the differences between XX chromosomes and XY chromosomes won't ever match up.

I simply don't know.

A woman really wants to be loved, but true emotion has been replaced by oversized plush objects, red plants and large Little Mermaid snowglobes that you can only buy at the Disney Store 45 minutes away.

Valentine's Day is a tough holiday because it makes you think of what type of future is in store for you and your significant other.

If you're going to go through the motions and submit yourself to the materialistic whims of the holiday, stay in the midst of shallowness and tell him what you want. Saying that you don't want anything for Valentine's Day isn't some creative

challenge for your boyfriend; it's annoying, clichéd, and stressful.

Women have no idea what they want for Valentine's Day because women are oblivious to the state of their relationships. Men always seem to know where the relationship is heading more than women. That's why women always seem to be the ones in hysterics at the end of the relationship.

Valentine's Day should be a day to remember the Catholic St. Valentine, but if Feb. 14 has to be a day of relationships, it should be a day of reflection instead of a day of overindulgence. Women, take time to evaluate where your relationship is heading and acknowledge the differences that have developed.

Lastly, ignore the commercialism of St. Valentine's Day. If you're the kind of person who buys or demands roses on St. Valentine's Day, the flowers might be a representation of your relationship. It looks great today, but with no real substance, they'll die.

Never settling for less

COUPLE, FROM PAGE 4

us, as a signal of who a person is," Browne said.

Browne, assisted by Kubasek, leads the IMPACT learning community and the couple resides in Offenhauer as resident scholars during the work week. They spend most weekends and holidays at their home in Las Vegas.

IMPACT member Chad Puterbaugh, sophomore, finds living in Offenhauer with the couple to be unique.

"They are both people whom I respect, and I feel pretty weird meeting them in the bathroom or walking through the hallways in a towel," he said, adding, "though, I think that that is just an idiosyncrasy of mine."

Living in Offenhauer with IMPACT members, such as Chad, and teaching students are two of their common interests. They believe sharing interests is one of the key elements to a successful marriage.

"There has to be a mutuality of passion, energy and interests," Browne said.

Exercise, reading, travel, blackjack, yoga and dancing are a few other things they both enjoy.

The couple also agrees that shared political views are another essential part of their successful marriage.

"Politics are important to both of

The couple met while pursuing interests and passions at law school. They were nothing more than fellow students, until they discovered their mutual interest in disco dancing. Browne won Kubasek over on the dance floor.

Kubasek thinks dating in law school contributed to building a strong relationship.

"When my husband and I met we both knew where we were going to be," Kubasek said. "I think you're better off if you don't find someone in college."

The couple doesn't claim to know the secret of a happy marriage. But they do know what works for them, and that they're happy together.

Kubasek offers some advice for finding "the one."

"I think you meet that person and it's just like 'wow,'" she said. "You don't think about any one else. I was just consumed with the relationship."

Browne credits his happiness to the fact that he did not settle for anything less than what he wanted.

"My wife and I, we want a whole lot out of a relationship, and we get it," he said. "I think a lot of people don't want much from relationships, and they get it."

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A "FINER" EVENT

♥ TRUE LIFE: I'VE BEEN
LAVALIERED

♥ GITCHA GREEK ON

♥ SOPHOMORES RULE!

♥ PHI TAU VS. SIG EP

♥ PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

Editor's CORNER



CHELCI HOWARD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Happy New Year!

Did you miss us?

The Gavel is excited about the upcoming semester for Greeks! Numerous opportunities to shine are rapidly approaching so make sure you seize them!

The Gavel wishes to send a heartfelt congratulation to Alpha Phi Omega for topping the spring Greek report!

These newcomers are setting high standards for Greek organizations!

We would also like to extend

a "pat on the back" to those chapters who jumped the most spots in their council.

Congratulations to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. for a whopping 26 point jump; Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, Inc. for a 22 spot leap; Pi Kappa Phi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon for both achieving an 18 spot gain and Alpha Gamma Delta for shooting ahead 8 spots!

Honorable mention also goes to Phi Kappa Tau and Delta Chi Phi!

Everyone should be proud of the Greek report and start striving to improve it for next semester!

Even though February is the shortest month, it seems to last forever in the life of a Greek.

Between open recruitment sessions, gearing up for philanthropies and Dance Marathon, there is barely time to stop and smell the roses that you hope you receive for Valentine's Day. So make sure that you pace yourself and most importantly, have fun!

February is also the time to celebrate Black History

Month and to remember those who fought for much needed equality in our nation. There are numerous NPHC chapters that are holding events to commemorate this month, so make sure to attend!

Also, congratulations to NPHC for hosting their first ever NPHC week! We look forward to the event next year!

To all of the new Greek members, welcome to Greek life!

The Gavel looks forward to seeing you grow and prosper within the Greek community and bettering it for future generations!

We encourage you to get involved as soon as possible and try to take advantage of everything that Greek life has to offer!

Remember to make the Gavel a part of your upcoming events! Notify us by email at bggavel@hotmail.com.

As always, In Greek Unity!

Chelci

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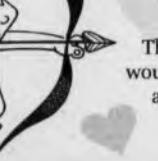
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ZETA PHI BETA TO HOST "FINER" EVENT



The brothers of Delta Chi
would like to wish all sororities
a Happy Valentine's Day!

Cupid's Corner

ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ ΦΔΘ



The brothers of Phi Delta Theta
want to wish all of the
sororities here at BGSU a
HAPPY Valentine's Day


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ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ



The brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon would
like to wish a Happy Valentine's Day to our
sweetheart, Nessa Livingston.


ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ ΣΠΕ



ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ

ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ ΛΕΑ


The women of Alpha Xi Delta would like to wish our
wonderful houseboys, Jeremy "Party Marty" Heil
and Eric "Raymer" Raymond a Happy Valentines Day.
Thanks for everything, we love you!



ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ ΑΞΔ

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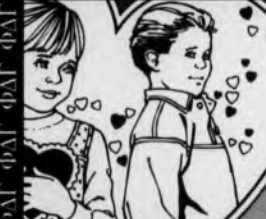


The brothers of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
Inc. would like to wish all of the beautiful
BG ladies a Happy Valentine's Day!

ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ ΠΒΣ



ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ



FIJI would like to wish
all BGSU sororities
a Happy Valentine's Day!

ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ ΦΔΓ

GAEL

TRUE LIFE: I've been lavaliered.

You think you know, but you have no idea!

COLLEEN VERBUS
REPORTER

In the spirit of February and Valentine's Day, this month's True Life is about the traditions of lavaliering.

Many Greeks know that a lavalier is simply a necklace with their letters on it. Each initiated member usually receives one from either her sister, a member in their family, or they just end up buying one, which is usually the case for fraternity members.

However, the meaning of the lavalier is something that goes way beyond gold or silver Greek letters dangling around your neck. This signifies a commitment to your sorority or fraternity and shows everyone that you come in contact with what you stand for.

Lavaliering is the practice of a fraternity member giving his girlfriend in his sorority his letters and allows her to wear his letters, showing a committed relationship between the two.

Ben Mossing, of Pi Kappa Alpha, lavaliered his girlfriend, Abby Snyder, of Alpha Chi Omega, over fall break this past year.

"Ben and I were on vacation in Arizona for Fall Break and we went out to dinner one night at DC Ranch Country Club," Snyder said. "After dinner we went outside and began to walk around with our friends Rob Jarowski and Jen Herold [also lavaliered], when we began to wander off by ourselves," Snyder said.

"He then turned to me and said that he had been meaning to do this for a really long time and that he was wondering if I would wear his letters. I, of course, said 'yes' and he then proceeded to help me put on my lavalier," Snyder continued.

Generally, in celebration of lavaliering, the girl in her individual chapter has a candle passing. The guys generally celebrate in a different way that most fraternity men cannot disclose.

"My chapter didn't celebrate,



LAVALIERED LOVE: Ben Mossing surprised Abby Snyder by lavaliering her on a trip to Arizona during fall break.

because I did not tell them right away, but when I did, they all gave me crap about it like guys do," Mossing said.

Both never really thought much about lavaliering or understood it when first joining their chapters.

"I didn't really have any idea what it was when I first joined," Mossing said, "but then when I found out, and I figured if I met the right girl for it, I would."

However, some have always imagined being lavaliered or knew exactly what to do when meeting that right girl.

That was the case for Rob Jarowski, president of Kappa Alpha Order, who lavaliered his girlfriend,

Jen Herold, of Alpha Chi Omega, in a surprise serenade on Super Bowl Sunday last year.

"I just wanted to think of a time that would completely catch her off guard," Jarowski said. "My goal was to surprise her and she was definitely shocked."

One thing is for sure, lavaliering will probably be one tradition that is going to be common for many Valentine's Days to come.



Photo provided by Abby Snyder

SUPERBOWL SWEATHEARTS: Jen herold had no idea her boyfriend Rob was going to lavalier her on Super Bowl Sunday

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CONTROVERSY DUE TO A TREND OF SOPHOMORE PANAHELLENIC PRESIDENTS

JANE KING
REPORTER

Typically, it was not uncommon for an upperclassman to hold the presidency of their sorority or fraternity chapter. However, an overgrowing trend at the University has the tables on this notion. New, younger members are taking on the role of president.

Aimee Golub, senior member of Alpha Phi, expressed some concern with the issue. She feels that it is important for a president to have at least two full years of experience in the chapter before one is ready to take on such a big job.

"It takes experience to know how the Greek community runs, what the Panhellenic or IFC rules are, what the individual national chapter rules are and what each chapter's standards are," Golub said. "Having a first full year chapter president creates a lot of problems within the chapter."

Members may disrespect young chapter presidents because they have only been apart of the chapter for a year while the other members may have a notion of seniority. On the other hand, members may hold back their true feelings, which may

lead to conflicts down the road, according to Golub.

Ashley Howard is one of these younger chapter presidents. Howard, president of Alpha Chi Omega, went through formal recruitment in 2004 during the fall term. She never thought that in just one short year she would be heading her chapter. However, she expressed enthusiasm when discussing the advantages of having a younger member head a chapter.

"Many times once someone gets to senior status, their main focus becomes graduation or their priorities may shift. By a sophomore dealing with all the behind-the-scenes work, the seniors and sometimes the juniors just put in their input, go to the event or meeting, kick back, relax and enjoy themselves," Howard said.

Amber Veatch, also a sophomore, and president of Pi Beta Phi, believes this new trend has emerged because, "the upperclassmen leadership has been lacking for the past couple of years."

"They all become burnt out from the sorority and really do not feel it

— “ —
If they did not
feel that I could
do this duty,
I know they
would not have
chosen me for
this position.

— ” —
AMBER VEATCH
PRESIDENT, PI BETA PHI

is beneficial to stay active—with a leadership position—within the sorority," she added.

So, is age an issue? Does it really matter if a president is young or new to the chapter? Howard does not think so.

"I think it has to do with the love, desire, passion and commitment that one person holds for the organization," she said. "I believe a good president must be charismatic, approachable and flexible. She needs to stay calm in

difficult situations and always lend a listening ear."

Howard feels respected by her sisters as they give her the "confidence and self-esteem boosts" that keep her going. However, she feels that respect is something that is earned.

"Could I say the upperclassmen have respect for me? Well, you would have to ask them. But in all seriousness, I would say so," she said.

With duties such as making sure other officers are doing their jobs, making phone calls, responding and sending out countless e-mails a day, keeping files of everything and organizing meetings and events, a president is in charge of overseeing the entire chapter.

Pi Beta Phi's nominating committee selects officers to be voted upon and it is made up of a lot of upperclassmen, according to Veatch.

"If they did not feel that I could do this duty, I know they would not have chosen me for the position," Veatch said.

ΔX ΔX ΔX ΔX ΔX

The brothers of
Delta Chi would like
to congratulate all of
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PHI KAPPA TAU VS. SIGMA PHI EPSILON

D.J. JOHNSON
REPORTER

ONCE AN INTENSE RIVALRY, NOW THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS BASED ON A COMPETITIVE SPIRIT

Across from Rodgers Quadrangle are the homes of two of the most popular fraternities at the University, whose proximity has caused tension and whose success has birthed one of the most talked about rivalries in the Greek community.

Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Phi Epsilon have achieved a great deal of success over the past couple of decades. Phi Kappa Tau has generally been in the top tier of fraternities based on membership and longevity, and Sigma Phi Epsilon prides themselves on winning the now-defunct Beta 500 for more than thirty years.

But, because of their success, a perceived rivalry has developed as to which of the fraternities is the best on campus.

Looking back to his freshman year, Chris Reynolds, president of Phi Kappa Tau, reminisced about the rivalry and the perceived hatred the chapters had for one another.



TWO HOUSEHOLDS, BOTH ALIKE IN FRATERNITY: Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Phi Epsilon have been rival neighbors for more than three decades.

"Simply put, SigEp was the enemy. You simply didn't associate with them," Reynolds said.

Reynolds has done a lot to change the organization and said that the rivalry between Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Phi Epsilon is a relationship

driven by competition, not hatred.

"I actually have a lot of friends in SigEp and the thing is that we battle with Sigma Phi Epsilon to see who is number one."

David Chambliss, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon, was in complete

agreement with Reynolds and agreed that the rivalry is based on competitive spirit. "The rivalry has lessened. In reality, it's just guys being guys."

Tim Smith, advisor of Phi Kappa Tau, mentioned that the two organizations have been rivals ever since Sigma Phi Epsilon occupied the house they currently inhabit.

"Rivalries were a part of fraternity life," Smith said.

But Smith also contributed that all throughout his undergraduate tenure and his years as an advisor, the Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Kappa Tau rivalry wasn't the only one.

Carton Schooley, who has been the advisor for Sigma Phi Epsilon for the better part of thirty years, said that the competitive rivalry between the groups has been kept calm, regardless of a few incidents.

"I think a couple of years ago, there were some eggs thrown,"

Schooley said. "You hate to see things escalate to that kind of behavior, but things happen."

But both chapter presidents agree that this bad publicity is behind them.

"People saw us as cocky and arrogant," Chambliss said of his chapter. "I'm upset that we lowered ourselves to making fun of others, but that's in the past."

It's the competitive spirit of each organization that keeps the rivalry between the two intense and the chapters at the top of their game.

And both advisors believe that the men of the chapters can have fun but still be a well-rounded chapter as well.

"God knows I don't want them to stop having a good time and stop playing sports and stop chasing girls," Smith said, "but there was a lot of improvement that they could do and they've started to do it. It's wonderful."

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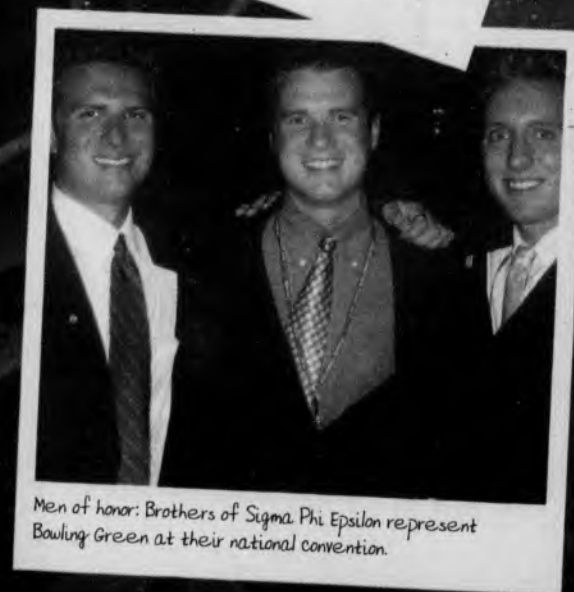
Say what, Freddie? The men of Delta Chi hang with Freddie Falcon at a philanthropy event.



Bad Boys for a cause! The Men of Delta Sigma Phi pose during a philanthropy event.



Pass it on! The executive council of Lambda Chi Alpha smile due to a successful term.



Men of honor: Brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon represent Bowling Green at their national convention.